

New Traffic Laws QUICKTIPS

Nevada Laws You Should Know

Here are some important new traffic laws passed by the 2003 Nevada Legislature. A short description of each is followed by its effective date, legislative bill number and applicable Nevada Revised Statute or NRS Chapter.



.08 DUI. The Illegal Per Se limit for driving under the influence of alcohol has been lowered.
(09/23/03 – AB 7 – NRS 484.379)

Seat Belt Use in Taxis. Passengers in taxicabs can be fined \$25 for not wearing seat belts if the cab is equipped with them. The citation may be issued only if the cab is stopped for another offense.
(10/01/03 – AB 226 – NRS 484)

Booster Seats. Children under six years old and 60 pounds will be required to ride in an approved child restraint system. Current law is five years and 40 pounds.
(06/01/04 – SB 166 – NRS 484.474)



School Zones. You must wait for all people, including the crossing guard, to completely clear the road before proceeding.
(07/01/03 – AB 42 – NRS 484)



Kids Aren't Cargo!

Riding in Pickups. Passengers under 18 may not ride in the back of a pickup or flatbed truck. This now applies in all Nevada counties and on all types of roads. The law does not apply, however, to farming and ranching activity, parades or to camper shells or slide-in campers.
(10/01/03 – AB 444 – NRS 484.473)

Blue Tail Lamps. Motorcyclists may now use a blue insert in their tail lamps which does not exceed one inch in diameter. A separate measure (AB 444) also authorizes blue tail lamps on Nevada Department of Transportation vehicles. (10/01/03 – AB 77 – NRS 486.261)

Merging on a Freeway. The existing law has been clarified. Motorists entering a controlled-access highway must yield to the traffic already on the highway.
(10/01/03 – SB 77 – NRS 484.322)



More New Laws

Stopped Emergency Vehicles. If you are approaching a stopped emergency vehicle displaying its flashing lights, you must slow down to a reasonable speed which is less than the posted limit and, if possible, drive in a lane which is not adjacent to the lane in which the emergency vehicle is stopped.
(10/01/03 – AB 299 – NRS 484)

Evading a Peace Officer. The penalty has been doubled for drivers who evade or ignore a peace officer when evading the officer results in death or substantial bodily harm to another person. This felony offense is punishable by two to 15 years in prison, a maximum fine of \$10,000 or both.
(10/01/03 – AB 335 – NRS 484.348)

Double Penalties in Work Zones. This penalty now may apply regardless of whether workers are present. Courts may double the fine, community service or jail terms for traffic offenses committed in highway work zones up to certain maximums. The area must be marked as a double-penalty zone. (10/01/03 – AB 444 – NRS 484.3667)



Flagpersons. A driver who disobeys a flagperson and causes injury to a road worker or more than \$1,000 in damage is subject to a fine of at least \$1,000 and 120 hours of community service. This may be doubled under the double penalty law.
(10/01/03 – AB 444 – NRS 484.254)

Local Resources

Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles

Driver handbooks, testing and online traffic laws.
(775) 684-4368 – www.dmvnv.com

Nevada Office of Traffic Safety

OTS supports safety programs throughout the state.
(775) 687-5720 – www.ots.state.nv.us

Nevada Legislature

Online information on legislative bills, all statutes, administrative code and printed code books.
(775) 684-6800 – www.leg.state.nv.us



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